



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

AUG 24 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/SG


FROM: HQ USAF/SG3
110 Luke Avenue, Room 400
Bolling AFB DC 20032-7050

SUBJECT: Japanese Encephalitis Vaccines (JE-Vax) Available

Two vaccines to prevent Japanese encephalitis are currently available for MTF use. The first, JE-Vax, produced by Biken, is due to expire May 2011. The DoD has enough vaccine to last through the summer of 2010. The second vaccine, IXIARO will be available through the depot in October 2009, and should be available through prime vendor in the near future. The supply of IXIARO through the depot will be listed at a lower cost for a limited quantity. After that supply is exhausted, the price will increase sharply to be comparable to that available through prime vendor. To limit the potential for hoarding of the new vaccine, AFMSA is working with MilVax and our Sister Services to assure all AF MTFs have access to sufficient vaccine necessary.

JE-Vax (currently in stockpile) has an MTF cost of approximately \$18 through DSCP, but is mouse-brain derived, a 3-dose series, and has some identified reactions, albeit uncommon. IXIARO, the newer vaccine, has a commercial cost of \$224, is cell-culture derived, and only requires two shots. It appears from pre-licensure studies that IXIARO has fewer local reactions, but sample sizes are too small to detect infrequent systemic reactions. MTFs and clinicians should weigh the costs and benefits of either Japanese encephalitis vaccine.

My POC for this memorandum is Lt Col Philip Gould, AFMOA/SG3PM, (202) 767-4268, DSN 297-4268, or Philip.Gould@Pentagon.af.mil.


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Attachment:
ASD/HA Memo, 7 Aug 09